

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:K KURZE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 087337

TOSEC 26

FOLLOWING REPEAT BEIRUT 5030 SENT ACTION DAMASCUS SECSTATE
DATED APR 29.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 5030

DEPT PLEASE PASS SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, SY

SUBJECT: SYRIAN INTEREST IN PURCHASE OF US MILITARY AIR TRANSPORT

1. LOCKHEED REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT CONLEY HAS JUST INFORMED
RCAA OF CALL FROM SYRIAN ARAB AIRLINES CHAIRMAN MOUKAYED.
MOUKAYED, WHO IS A GENERAL IN SYRIAN AIR FORCE AND
RESPONSIBLE FOR AIR FORCE PROCUREMENT, REQUESTED CONLEY
MEET HIM IN DAMASCUS 10:30 AM, APRIL 30, TO DISCUSS
POSSIBLE PROCUREMENT AND EARLY DELIVERY OF C130H HERCULES
MILITARY TRANSPORT PLANES.

2. CONLEY FULLY AWARE PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH MILITARY
SALES TO SYRIA BUT PLANS TO MEET MOUKAYED AND HEAR HIM
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OUT. (AS IS KNOWN, LOCKHEED ACTIVELY NEGOTIATING SUB-

STANTIAL SALE TRISTARS FOR CIVIL AIR USE.) WE HAVE
ADVISED HIM TO CALL ON SCOTES PRIOR TO MEETING, WHICH
HE WILL DO.

3. SYRIAN INTEREST IN US MILITARY TRANSPORT PLANES (OR
SYRIAN THINKING THAT DEVELOPMENTS ARE SUCH THAT US AUTHORIZATION
OF SALE OF SUCH EQUIPMENT MIGHT BECOME FEASIBLE) OBVIOUSLY
SIGNIFICANT. WOULD SEEM ADVISABLE THEREFORE FOR SOME
SORT OF LATEST GUIDANCE TO REACH USINT DAMASCUS BY TIME
OF CONLEY'S VISIT. GODLEY UNQUOTE RUSH

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